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Letter dated 15 May 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a communiqué of the sixty-fourth session of the Central Organ of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, at ambassadorial level on the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea, Addis Ababa, 14 May 2000 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Fesseha A. **Tessema**
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.

00-43282 (E) 150500

Annex to the letter dated 15 May 2000 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English and French]

Communiqué of the sixty-fourth session of the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, at Ambassadorial Level on the Conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea

Addis Ababa, 14 May 2000

The Central Organ of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, held its sixty-fourth session at ambassadorial level on Sunday 14 May 2000, in Addis Ababa, to discuss the situation between Ethiopia and Eritrea in the light of the resumption of hostilities between the two countries since 12 May 2000.

The session was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Smaïl Chergui, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the OAU.

Following its deliberations, the Central Organ,

Recalling the communiqué of 5 May 2000, issued by the Office of the current chairman following the proximity talks between Ethiopia and Eritrea held in Algiers from 29 April to 5 May 2000;

Further recalling the communiqué issued by the Office of the current Chairman of the OAU on 12 May 2000, following the resumption of hostilities between Ethiopia and Eritrea, as well as the communiqué issued by the Secretary-General of the OAU on 13 May 2000:

1. Expresses its grave concern at the resumption of hostilities between Ethiopia and Eritrea and their consequences for both countries, as well as for security and stability in the region;

2. Appeals to both parties to put an immediate end to the hostilities and to commit themselves to a peaceful solution based on the Framework Agreement and the Modalities, and to resume the proximity talks, under the auspices of the current Chairman, aimed at enabling the two parties to reach an agreement on "consolidated Technical Arrangements";

3. Takes note of the statement by the representative of Ethiopia referring to the statement issued on 13 May 2000, by the Office of the Prime Minister of Ethiopia in which he stated that "Ethiopia remains ready, if invited by the OAU, to pursue peace and commence the proximity talks from where we left off in Algiers".

4. Takes note of the statement by the representative of Eritrea in which he stated that both parties are expected to respond to the appeal of the OAU current Chairman at the highest level;

5. Endorses the communiqué of 5 May 2000 issued by the Office of the current Chairman, following the proximity talks between Ethiopia and Eritrea held in Algiers from 29 April to 5 May 2000;

6. Further endorses the communiqué issued by the Office of the current Chairman of OAU on 12 May 2000, following the resumption of hostilities between Ethiopia and Eritrea, as well as the communiqué issued by the Secretary-General of OAU on 13 May 2000;

7. Pays tribute to the current Chairman and the Secretary-General of OAU and to all those supporting OAU's efforts, for the sustained efforts they have been deploying in order to promote a peaceful solution to the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea on the basis of the principles enshrined in the OAU Charter, including the respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each State, and resolution 16 (I) adopted by the first ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government (1964) on the respect of borders existing on achievement of national independence by member States;

8. Encourages the current Chairman to pursue his peace efforts on the basis of the Framework Agreement and the Modalities for its implementation, which were accepted by both parties and endorsed by the thirty-fifth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government;

9. Decides to remain seized of the matter.